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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/509,449	03/28/2000	KATSUMI AOYAGI	594.352USWO	8016	
5	7590 04/08/2002				
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.			EXAMINER		
P.O. BOX 2903 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903			WORTMAN,	WORTMAN, DONNA C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			1648	10	
			DATE MAILED: 04/08/2002	18	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Please see attached.

Donna C. Wortman, Ph.D. Primary Examiner Art Unit: 1648

The proposed reply filed on March 27, 2002, has not been entered because it is unsigned.

Since the above mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME LIMIT MAY BE GRANTED UNDER** 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Donna C. Wortman, Ph.D. whose telephone number is 703-308-1032. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 7:30-5:00 and alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Housel can be reached on 703-308-4027. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and 703-872-9307 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0196.

Donna C. Wortman, Ph.D.

Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1648

dcw

April 5, 2002